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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:29 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we hear again the question You put before Solomon: "Ask! What shall I give you?" Suddenly we are challenged to identify our deepest need. We agree with Solomon's response when he asked for an understanding heart, one that listens to You and responds to Your guidance. Help us to listen attentively to You. A cacophony of other voices often limits our ability to hear what You have to say about the issues we face. We really need to hear the assurance You gave to Solomon and claim it for ourselves. "See, I have given you a wise and listening heart." We urgently need that gift coupled with the gift of courage to follow Your direction.

Father, continue to bless the women and men of this Senate as they humble themselves, confess their need to hear Your voice in their souls, and give dynamic leadership to our Nation at this crucial time. Through our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The able acting majority leader, Senator MCCAIN, is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, this morning, the pending business will be S. 442, the Internet tax bill. An agreement has been reached on the bill allowing for relevant amendments, with the addition of a Bumpers amendment regarding catalog sales. Rollcall votes are expected during today's session on or in relation to amendments offered to

the Internet bill or possibly an executive nomination. In either case, the first rollcall vote today will occur by 10:30 a.m.

Members are reminded that a cloture motion was filed yesterday on the motion to proceed to H.R. 10, the financial services bill. That vote will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 5. Also, during Monday's session the Senate may consider any available appropriations conference reports. Therefore, further votes could occur following the 5:30 cloture on Monday. I thank my colleagues for their attention.

### MEASURES PLACED ON CALENDAR—S. 2529

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, there is a bill at the desk due for its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2529) entitled the "Patients' Bill of Rights Act of 1998."

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings on this bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard and the bill will be placed on the calendar.

### MEASURE PLACED ON CALENDAR—S.J. RES. 59

Mr. MCCAIN. I understand there is also a Senate joint resolution at the desk awaiting its second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the joint resolution.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 59) to provide for a balanced budget constitutional amendment that prohibits the use of Social Security surpluses to achieve compliance.

Mr. MCCAIN. I object to further consideration of this matter at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution will be placed on the calendar.

### INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. AL-LARD). The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 442) to establish national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise Congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exaction that would interfere with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the committee amendments reported by the Finance and the Commerce Committees are agreed to. The bill is considered original text for the purpose of further amendment.

Who seeks recognition?

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate is today beginning debate on S. 442, the Internet Tax Freedom Act. Shortly, Senator BUMPERS will come to the floor to propose his amendment, and we expect further amendments following that.

Before I summarize the bill, I want to note for the record the importance of this measure. The reality is that this bill could determine the fate of electronic commerce. Without it, the economic revolution we are hoping for may never take place. Without it, electronic commerce may—and we are in fact seeing this occur—be hampered by politicians who see it as not as revolutionary, but as a source of new tax revenue.

First, I want to commend Senator WYDEN for his extraordinary leadership

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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